

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-12 (canceled)

13. (new) A catheter insertable into a blood vessel and comprising:

a deflector arrangement projecting from an external surface of a body of the catheter adjacent a front portion of the body for interacting with a flow of blood through the blood vessel to displace the catheter body laterally toward a region of a wall of the vessel, to minimize an amount of blood disposed between the catheter body and the vessel wall;

wherein the deflector arrangement comprises fins disposed on opposite sides of the catheter body and arranged to be displaced towards the vessel wall by the force of blood flow.

14. (new) The catheter according to claim 13 wherein the fins are generally diametrically opposed on the catheter body.

15. (new) The catheter according to claim 14 wherein there are two sets of diametrically opposed fins, each set comprising a plurality of fins.

16. (new) The catheter according to claim 13 wherein each fin extends in a direction inclined obliquely relative to a longitudinal axis of the catheter, as the catheter is viewed from the side.